

17 February 1956

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)**

**FROM: Assistant Director for Basic Intelligence**

**SUBJECT: Comments on Syllabus of Advanced Course in  
Principles and Methods of Strategic Intelligence  
Production**

1. It is believed that both the office and the individual would be better served if the course were recast as an 8-week course occupying the full time of the student. For the student, this would permit concerted application on the subject matter presented. This concentration would be especially beneficial in the production of research papers of the scope and import envisioned in the syllabus. On the other side, the office would rather have the individual return to full-time employment after eight weeks absence than have only part-time call on his attention over a five-month period. The idea of an enrollment limited to 15 students is looked upon with favor. This being so, another advantage would accrue from making the course last 8 weeks: it would be possible to have more courses in a year's time, permitting greater employee participation and the preparation of more research projects.

2. The syllabus states the first week is given over to "Introduction and Definitions." There are no subheads under that, but it is assumed that one aim in the first week would be to establish common understanding at a sophisticated level, on the part of students with a wide range of IP background, of the theory and practices of basic, current, and estimative intelligence and of the relationships between the categories. An understanding of the element of mutual support of one kind of intelligence by another in making up the whole edifice of Strategic Intelligence Production is felt to be particularly important in giving unity of background and comprehension to an otherwise diversified student body.

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Deputy Assistant Director, BI

16 February 1956

Special Assistant, BI

**Comments on Syllabus of Advanced Course in Principles and Methods  
of Strategic Intelligence Production**

1. As proposed in the syllabus, this advanced course in Principles and Methods of Strategic Intelligence Production is to be given over a 20-week period, two consecutive business days per week, for a total of 320 classroom hours. In addition, it is expected that the student will supplement the classroom work with about 4 hours of outside reading per week. This proposed division of the student's time--two days of the week in class, the other three in his office--apparently is designed to make the offices more receptive to the idea of letting their outstanding personnel, GS-11 and over, go to attend such an advanced course. It is believed that both the office and the individual would be better served if the course were recast as an 8-week course occupying the full time of the student. For the student, this would permit concerted application on the subject matter presented. This concentration would be especially beneficial in the production of research papers of the scope and import envisioned in the syllabus. On the other side, the office would rather have the individual return to full-time employment after eight weeks absence than have only part-time call on his attention over a five-month period. The idea of an enrollment limited to 15 students is looked upon with favor. This being so, another advantage would accrue from making the course last 8 weeks; it would be possible to have more courses in a year's time, permitting greater employee participation and the preparation of more research projects.

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a. Timeliness as an Element in the Production of Basic Intelligence.

c. The Wartime Support of Combat Intelligence Needs by the National Intelligence Structure.

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